



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

November 15, 2004



Landscape crews roll out new sod in front of the original Senate Wing as part of the effort to prepare the East Front Plaza for the inauguration.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 11/15/04 through 11/19/04

East Front Plaza Highlights:

- All major concrete placements have been completed and crews are now working on stairwells and interior blockwork.
- New grass sod now covers both rectangular zones in front of the original House and Senate wings near the face of the Capitol as part of the effort to prepare the East Front Plaza for the inauguration.
- Stone masons have now placed more than 130,000 granite pavers on the CVC roof deck. The pavers will cover the western half of the CVC roof deck in time for the inauguration.
- Major concrete placements will occur this week for the upper roof slab in the northeast and southeast quadrants.
- Installation of utility and communications conduit continues in the Congressional Auditorium.
- Crews continue to build mechanical spaces, erect interior blockwork, and install utilities throughout the site.
- Concrete work has been completed for the egress stairwell adjacent to the Capitol on the north side of the Center Steps.

East Front Extension (EFE) (Inside the Capitol)

- Crews will begin placing concrete for the central grand staircase that connects the CVC to the Capitol at the Crypt level.
- Crews continue to erect structural steel inside the EFE and continue with demolition activities to clear the way for elevators, escalators, stairwells and new mechanical systems.



A small forklift is used to move a steel beam into place for the seating structure of one of the two CVC orientation theaters. Each theater will accommodate approximately 250 people.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- **Milestone:** The first delivery through the CVC truck tunnel occurred at approximately 8:00 AM on Monday, November 15, 2004. Trucks now using the tunnel are delivering materials primarily in support of the Sequence 2 contract. The tunnel is not expected to open to general truck traffic (in support of Capitol operations) until 2006 when all interior support facilities, freight elevators and connecting corridors are completed.
- Crews have completed backfilling the area above the truck tunnel along Northwest Drive, except for one small area where the perimeter security team is now assembling the formwork for the circular planter in this zone. Concrete for the Northwest Drive roadbed may be completed this week with milling and asphalt work expected to occur next week. All the curbstones within the CVC project requirements have been reinstalled and the remaining curbstones will be replaced as part of the perimeter security work occurring concurrently within this zone.
- Work to restore the aggregate stone sidewalks along NJ Avenue NW has been completed.



CVC Milestone: The first trucks to use the new CVC truck tunnel on the north side of the Capitol began rolling in at 8:00 AM on Monday, November 15, 2004.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Waterproofing is now complete in the tunnel below First Street clearing the way for removal the temporary bridge on First Street SE above the tunnel zone. Traffic patterns may be slightly affected although a lane shift will most likely occur later next week after the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Crews will continue to place concrete (more than 75 percent complete), install waterproofing (80 percent complete) and assemble formwork for the tunnel walls and roof along the western half of the LOC tunnel within the CVC site.
- Concrete placements will continue for the base tunnel slab on the LOC (east) side of First Street.

Next Week – 11/22/04 – 11/26/04

East Front Plaza Work

- Workers will continue placing the granite paving stones on the CVC roof deck and complete other plaza deck work in preparation of the inauguration in January 2005.
- Crews will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, place concrete, erect blockwork, and backfill zones near the CVC entrances.

East Front Extension

- Steel crews will continue to erect steel and place concrete within the East Front concrete structure. Demolition of structural elements and clearing activities will continue on all levels within the East Front.



Workers assemble steel rebar for the main central staircase that will connect the CVC to the Capitol at the Crypt level.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- Restoration of Northwest Drive will continue, including the placement of asphalt and the restoration of sidewalks.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Formwork assembly, concrete placements and waterproofing will continue in various zones along the LOC tunnel route. Pedestrian access will continue along the east side of the work zone. Existing traffic patterns may change slightly depending upon the progress of the removal of the temporary bridge along First Street SE.